

We Wish You A Very Merry Christmas

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NO. 16

HOLD THREE MEETINGS

Bondsmen of Fred E. Ames Convene to Formulate Plans for Action

BONDSMEN SUBPOENAED

Must Appear Before Grand Jury Friday to Testify in Alleged Shorage Matter

Due to the fact that Arthur Y. Ames, Company, auditors, failed to file their detailed report of the books on Friday of last week, the grand jury has postponed the same until Friday of this week, no definite action has been taken in the alleged County Treasurer's shorage matter. Many reports have been spread within the past few days, but for the most part these are mere speculation.

During the past week the bondsmen of Mr. Ames have held three meetings at this place, but with the purpose of the first two meetings being made public. At the third meeting held Tuesday evening, the purpose of establishing a method of procedure. Attorney M. C. D. of North Chicago, counsel retained by the bondsmen, met with them and offered a number of suggestions, of which however, were adopted.

State Attorney Dady has caused a summons to be served on each and every one of the bondsmen bidding them to appear before the grand jury tomorrow (Friday) to testify in the matter, and it is also said that a veritable drag net has been spread and that a large number of witnesses have been subpoenaed to appear on that date. Just what is the reason of this action is the cause of much speculation but the State's Attorney has so far refused to divulge any of his reasons.

W. S. Westlake and E. B. Williams, representing the bondsmen are in Waukegan today (Thursday) in interests of the matter.

Price is reported to have turned over his Waukegan and Wauconda property and Ames is said to have turned in his property, both at Waukegan and Lake Catherine as has also Dr. E. H. Ames at Antioch.

MAY ELECT POSTMASTERS IN FUTURE

Representative W. A. Cullop of Indiana has announced that in a short time he will call on President Taft for the purpose of getting the president interested in a reform which he has in mind.

This reform in the opinion of Mr. Cullop, will bring relief to the president himself, to senators and to representatives.

The reform to which Mr. Cullop is now devoting himself is the popular election of postmasters.

"I intend to suggest to the president" said the Second district member, that he should issue an executive order stipulating that every four years the patrons of each presidential office should get together in an election and decide by majority vote whom they wish to serve them as postmaster. This election can take place without any inconvenience at the time of the general election. No partisanship should enter into it and every patron regardless of his politics, should be allowed to vote.

There are two ways, added Mr. Cullop, in which the popular election of a postmaster may be brought about. One way is by an amendment to the federal constitution, the other way is by an executive order of the president. It would be easy for the president to solve the problem by an executive order.

Way to Shine.

The only way to shine, even in this false world, is to be modest and unassuming. Falsehood may be a thick crust, but in the course of time truth will find a place to break through.

\$1,500 LIMIT ENFORCED

In Future Collectors Will Not Be Allowed More Than State Law Prescribes

To add to the general "kick up" in the county affairs, just as soon as the matter of the audit and the alleged shorage of \$27,000 in the County Treasurer's office are out of the way, it is stated that the supervisors from several of the towns will go after the long suffering collectors pay matter, this time to clean it up.

As is well known, collectors in all of the towns are in the habit of accepting two per cent of the money received in their respective towns, as pay. This is all right by law up to the sum of \$1,500, but this sum is the limit, so says the law, and it is therefore claimed that all taken above that sum is taken illegally.

Towns that will be affected by the taking up of this matter are said to be Lake Forest, Highland Park and Waukegan. While no exact figures are given it is understood that the receipts of the other towns in Lake County do not aggregate a sum to give the collector any where near \$1,500.

While the matter has often been brought up in Waukegan it never has gone beyond the "holler" stage and nothing was ever done. But now comes the tip that certain north shore supervisors are to take the matter up formally before the board at once, as soon as more pressing matters are out of the way, and are to insist that the State's Attorney enforce the law strictly in the matter of the town collectors, if it proves necessary.

As the tip comes the supervisors will concern themselves in the matter only so far as to seeing that the limitation as to the salary are hereafter enforced.

CLIMBS TO ROOF OF BARN

Man Whom Sheriff Tries to Arrest Goes to Roof and is Held at Bay in Novel Way

Wednesday afternoon when Sheriff Green and Deputy Limberry went to Rondout to bring Theo. Jajoinboske into circuit court on a contempt charge, the man saw them coming and, quickly climbing a ladder, hastened to the top of the roof of a high barn and drew the ladder after him.

The officers, seated comfortably below, did not care to shoot him, to bring him down but they were tempted to do so when he persistently refused to budge from his perch high on the roof. The cold wind swept across the prairie at Rondout and his particular barn is so located that he got the full benefit of it. But, chilled and determined to outwit the officers, he sat on the peak of the roof, in full view of the officers, insisting he would stay there until he froze to death rather than surrender. He had no weapons hence did not open fire on the officers who rather enjoyed the novel experience, the first exciting thing the new sheriff has experienced.

The man was defendant in a divorce action brought by his wife a few weeks ago and she procured an injunction from Judge Donnelly restraining him from interfering with her or molesting her in any way. He did not observe it long, according to reports, but made threats against his wife and family from the start.

However, Tuesday night he is said to have gone to his wife's house and with an axe, broke in the door and then threatened to kill her and the children. She accordingly reported the matter to Circuit Judge Donnelly and asked that her husband be punished for having violated the injunction. The court at once ordered the sheriff to go to Rondout and bring the man into court to answer to the charge of contempt of court.

Invention of the Salad.
Delicate cookery has long been known to flourish best in those lands where roast beef is hard to get. It was starvation that invented the salad, for example. Somebody had to eat grass or go hungry, so he put vinegar and oil, pepper and salt to it, and lo! it made dry bread seem like a dinner. I do not doubt that we shall bless the meat trust for a varied dietary are we get through with it or it with us, whichever way the thing comes out.—Eugene Wood, in Hampton's Magazine.

Was Too Modest.
James K. Hackett, the actor, said at a luncheon in Pittsburgh: "An actor should be modest, and most actors are. But I know a young actor who, at the beginning of his career, carried modesty almost too far. This young man inserted in all the dramatic papers a want advertisement that read: 'Engagement wanted—Small art, such as dead body or outside shouts, preferred.'—Argonaut.

VOLIVA ROUTS GUESTS

Breaks Up Wedding Party of Nine-Year-Old North Chicago Volivaite and Independents

INDEPENDENTS "TRAITORS"

Order Independents (Traitors) From the House at Once or the Faithful Must Depart

In an effort to conciliate Volivaite, Dowieites and Independents in Zion City Saturday evening, Sam Nelson, colored door attended for Voliva, which position he formerly held under Dowie, almost precipitated a serious situation for his guests.

As it is, the guests are turning up their noses and wondering just how harmony will ever reign in Zion City when such affairs as Saturday are not allowed to proceed.

It so happened that Nelson and wife arranged a celebration of the 25th wedding anniversary Saturday evening. They had friends in all factions as they have sort of kept apart from the factional fights and because of their previous affiliations with Dowie, they felt friendly to many of the men who now allied against Voliva.

For instance, their guests from the Independent crowd included; Judge Barnes, Elder Graves and others.

From the Voliva crowd, there were Elders Richert, Cary, Moot, Tindall.

All the guests, at 8 o'clock, sat down to a sumptuous feed and suddenly the telephone bell rang and a call was made for Elder Cary.

Cary returned shortly and informed the guests that he had a call from General Overseer Voliva and the latter had told him to deliver this message to the guests assembled.

"I have learned that true Zionites (his followers) are breaking bread with traitors (Independents) and I hereby order you to tell the traitors to leave the house within three minutes or those loyal to me, must depart at once."

It so happened that it was then about nine o'clock and time for Judge Barnes and the others to leave for home hence they prepared to depart without making it necessary for the Voliva followers to leave the party. But, it is said that they felt quite piqued over the order sent by Voliva, in fact, even some of his own followers stuck up their noses when they heard of the order that had been issued. In the meantime Voliva sits back with a smile of satisfaction to think that his followers so completely under his thumb as to even prevent them from attending a wedding anniversary without his permission.

Now how in the world is there ever to be peace in Zion if the people are not allowed to lay aside their disagreements long enough to attend a social gathering among their neighbors.

Screwed Up Their Courage.

It was the hour of family confidences. Mr. Buggins had finished his evening papers, and in slippers and dressing gown was toasting his toes before the asbestos fire log, while the wife of his bosom was putting a few stitches in the table cover she was doing for Aunt Mary, and which she hoped to have finished by Christmas. "I did something today that I've been screwing up my courage to do for a long time," said Mrs. Buggins. "Yes?" said Mr. Buggins, mildly interested. "What was it?" "You know that odious Mrs. Bjones?" replied Mrs. Buggins. "Well, I paid her a call that I have owed for nearly a year."

"My dear, I can sympathize with you," said Mr. Buggins. "Today, by a strange coincidence I paid that odious Mr. Bjones a bill I had owed him for quite as long."

Popular Chinese Fruit.
A fruit popular in North China, and which is most excellent for the table, either stewed or as jam, is in appearance like a crabapple. The flesh is pinkish in color, and when served at table it has the color of cranberry sauce. The taste is pleasant, with a subacid flavor, and very refreshing. The Chinese call it "hung-kuo" (pronounced hongkwah), which means "red fruit."

DROWNS WHILE SKATING

Nine-Year-Old North Chicago Boy Skated Onto Thin Ice and Was Drowned

WANTED TO SHOW BRAVERY

Boy Companions Made Heroic Efforts at Rescue—Coroner's Jury Returned Verdict of Accidental Death

Nine-year-old Julius Taurynski of North Chicago was drowned Saturday afternoon when he tried to show two boy companions how close he could go to a place on the ice which he had been warned to avoid because it was so thin and insecure. The inquest was held Sunday afternoon in the Larson & Conrad undertaking rooms with Deputy Coroner Edward Conrad presiding. A verdict of "accidental death" was returned by the jury.

Julius, with Raymond Deraeu and John Gabello, two boys of about the same age were skating on a little pond that adjoins the Zinc works and lies between the plant and the E. J. & E. railroad tracks in North Chicago. In most places the ice was quite secure but at one point near shore where the water is reported to be about 10 feet deep the ice was made thin by a stream of warm water running out, of the Zinc works. All the boys had been warned to keep away from this point.

Tow of the boys heeded the warning but Julius wanted to show his little companions how more brave he was than they. He skated quite near the danger point when without a moment's warning the treacherous ice gave way and he was precipitated into the icy water.

He struggled about and sought in vain to catch hold of the ice but each time his numbed little fingers slipped off and he dropped back again.

Raymond Deraeu realized the danger his little playmate was in and securing a pole reached it out in an effort to help him out. Before he knew it he was upon the thin ice himself. Once more the ice broke and Deraeu found himself in water up to his neck. Gabello came to his assistance and by reaching out a hand helped him to scramble out on the ice.

Although he was so numb that he scarcely could move, Deraeu did not give up his efforts to save Julius. He saw him go under twice and reached out a pole to save him but it was not long enough and the lad went down for the third and last time.

Marshal Wier of North Chicago was summoned and hurried to the scene. With the assistance of other men he managed to drag the little victim from the water. Dr. Jolly was summoned but it was found the boy had been dead some time.

The funeral was held Tuesday morning at 8 o'clock from the Lithuanian church with interment at St. Mary's cemetery.

Pleasant Meals.

Shakespeare very truly wrote that "unquiet meals make ill digestions," and meal times should never be made unpleasant. Wives must not entertain their husbands at dinner with the day's domestic grievances about children or servants, nor ask for money, and husbands must not retell the worries of the office, the fall in stocks or their own personal troubles. Be cheerful at meals, everything will then taste better—and digest better; leave the worries in the drawing room—you can return to tackle them ever so much better if you banish them from the dining room.—Home.

A Sign in Gray's Inn Road.

A correspondent thinks he has discovered the shortest shop front name in London. It is above a shop in Gray's Inn road—simply, S. Bee. There is some sort of accent on the "e," but the sign writer seems doubtful about it. Can you beat that name for brevity?—London Chronicle.

For Circuit Judge

I am a candidate for the office of Circuit Judge to fill the vacancy now existing. The support of the voters of the judicial district will be gratefully appreciated.
Chas. Whitney.

BOY FORGER CONFESSES

Is Given Thirty Days in Jail as Punishment for Offense

William Keller, 17 years old, living on Sheridan road in North Chicago, confessed check forger, Tuesday evening before Justice Nelson of North Chicago was sentenced 30 days in the county jail at Waukegan. Keller plead guilty to forging a check of \$15 and seeking to pass it on a North Chicago merchant late Monday afternoon.

Keller entered the little clothing store conducted by Martin Brunet on Tenth street near McAlister avenue, saying he wished to purchase an overcoat. He tried on several before he finally found one for \$15 that fitted him.

He tendered in payment a check made out on the First National bank of Waukegan to himself with the name of Frank Johnson signed to it. Brunet inquired who Johnson was and was informed that he was a coal dealer.

Brunet knew of no dealer by this name and his suspicious were aroused at once. When the boy was not looking he locked the front door and then went to the rear and called up the First National bank where he was informed that no funds were on deposit in the bank under such a name. Several times while he was talking the boy had tried to open the front door.

The store keeper then became convinced that the check was a forgery. He called up the North Chicago police and held the boy until their arrival. The boy begged pitifully to be allowed to go but without avail.

The hearing occurred Tuesday night and when confronted with the charge Keller plead guilty. He said he was cold and needed and overcoat and knew of no other way to get it.

FIRE DESTROYS HOME

Building Consumed and Only Small Portion of Contents Saved.

Tuesday morning at about half past six o'clock Clayton King and family who resided in the Joseph Savage house at Channel lake were awakened to learn that their house was wrapped in flames.

Frank Petersen the hired man was the first one to arise on that morning and after re-kindling the fire started for the barn. He had reached the barn and chancing to look back he was horrified to see that the entire roof was to all appearances ablaze, rushing into the house he aroused the family and sent the alarm of fire through the neighborhood. Help soon arrived but as it was evident from the first that the building could not be saved, attention was turned to the rescuing of the furniture and the time for that was all too short, only a portion of the furniture and a part of their clothing and the bedding was saved.

How the fire originated is not known but it is supposed to have caught from an over heated chimney. The loss was partially covered by an insurance in the Millburn Mutual Insurance company, Mr. Savage carrying \$3,000 on the building, and Mr. King \$180 on the household goods, there was no insurance on the piano, which was burned. The directors met this (Thursday) forenoon to adjust the loss.

After the fire the King family were taken in by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Smith, but they expect to soon move into the Frank Savage house at Channel for the remainder of the winter, and in the spring they will move to Eagle Lake Wis., where Mr. King recently purchased a farm.

This is the second fire that has occurred at the Savage place, the first one having taken place some time ago when the house was occupied by C. O. Foltz and family.

Fame at Last.

"Whatever is the matter, Percy?" asked the poet's wife, "why are you tearing your hair so?" "O. Scribner's Magazine has sent me an acceptance for a poem!" "Why, that's grand! You have been trying to sell them something for so long."

"Well, perhaps it is, but I find the sonnet I meant to send them is right here on my desk and what I sent them was the backing sheet that I've been using on my typewriter for the last three months!"

Rotten Luck.

Sympathetic Nephew (to aeroplaning uncle, who has slipped badly)—"Well, it is rotten luck for you, uncle, hurting yourself like this falling down silly old steps, when you've got an aeroplane!"—Punch.

TAYLOR RECEIVES LETTER

In Which W. A. Northcott Answers Charges Made by John D. Dennison

MAKES A STRONG DENIAL

Dennison Charges That Political Influences Have Been Brought to Bear to Throttle the Investigation

W. T. Taylor last week received a letter from W. A. Northcott in which was enclosed the following clipping taken from the Springfield Record of December 11.

"Denial in the most emphatic and unmistakable terms was last evening made by Hon. William A. Northcott, former lieutenant governor of Illinois and at present United States district attorney for this, the southern district, regarding an interview given to a Chicago newspaper by John D. Dennison, Jr. of Dubuque, Iowa, in which Northcott is charged with swinging politics for the Modern Woodmen of America.

Charges which have been filed with State Superintendent of Insurance Fred W. Potter by Dennison, was the subject of discussion at the annual meeting of Insurance men in Chicago on Saturday in which Dennison alleges that millions of dollars of the funds of the order have been misused and asking that an immediate and thorough investigation of the affairs of the order be instituted. Dennison charges that political influence has been brought to bear to throttle the investigation.

The reply of Mr. Northcott to the statements made by Dennison in the Saturday afternoon papers, regarding Woodman affairs follows. "So far as his newspaper interview charges any wrong doing on my part in connection with this society, I will say that they are de liberate and malicious lies and he knows it.

I have had no official connection with the management of this society for nearly eight years, and have no personal knowledge of the transactions of which he speaks. In his official charges filed with Mr. Potter he does not make a single charge against me of any kind.

This man Dennison, as I am reliably informed, went to the management of this society and demanded a position at \$300 per month, and when refused, made the threat that he would get even. These charges are in the nature of blackmail, and he will never make them good, and I doubt if he ever appears before the insurance department. Mr. Potter has been requested by those assailed by Dennison to make a most thorough investigation.

Charges should be preferred against Mr. Dennison in the Woodman lodge and he should be expelled from the society."—Springfield Record.

LAKE COUNTY MAY COLLECT BACK TAXES

If all the omitted property in Lake County were taxed, it is said that the amount raised from the proceeding, with the privilege of taxing it for ten years back on discovery and proof, would net more than has been saved Lake County by the ten year audit of the county books.

This statement was made in reference to property, which it is alleged has never been on the tax books of Lake County, composed of money in banks, stocks, bonds, jewels, saloon property and a hundred other things.

Last year's report of the auditor for the State of Illinois, it is said, showed only \$9,000 worth of saloon property, and that other instances were as noteworthy.

The scheme by which many counties in the state are recovering the money due them from property which has never been taxed, but which should be, is to retain an expert and enter into a contract with him to ferret out such property.

It is now rumored that such an expert is soon to make an offer to the supervisors to look up such affairs in Lake County.

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ANTIOCH

ILLINOIS

The Courage of Captain Plum

By
JAMES
OLIVER
CURWOOD

Illustrations by Magnus G. Keltner

(Copyright 1904 by Bobbs-Merrill Co.)

SYNOPSIS.

Capt. Nathaniel Plum of the sloop Typhoon, lands secretly on Beaver Island, stronghold of the Mormons. Oudiah Price, Mormon counselor, confronts him, tells him he is expected, and bargains for the ammunition aboard the sloop. He binds Nat by a solemn oath to deliver a package to Franklin Pierce, president of the United States. Near Price's cabin Nat sees the frightened face of a young woman who disappears in the darkness, leaving an odor of lilacs. It develops that Nat's visit to the island is to demand settlement of the king, Strang, for the loss of his sloop by Mormons. Price shows Nat the king's palace, and through a window he sees the lady of the lilacs, who Price says is the king's seventh wife. Calling at the king's office Nat is warned by a young woman that his life is in danger. Strang professes indifference, but he hears Nat's grievance and promises to punish the guilty. Nat rescues Nell, who is being publicly whipped, and the king orders the sheriff, Arbor Croche, to pursue and kill the two men. Plum learns that Marion, the girl of the lilacs, is Nell's sister. The two men plan to escape on Nat's sloop and take Marion and Winnsome, daughter of Arbor Croche, and sweetheart of Nell. Nat discovers that the sloop is gone. Marion tells him that his ship has been seized by the Mormons. She begs him to leave the island, telling him that nothing can save her from Strang, whom she is doomed to marry. Plum finds Price raving mad, screaming, he tells Nat that Strang is doomed, that armed men are descending on the island. Nat learns that Marion has been summoned to the castle by Strang. Nat fights with the king, leaves him for dead. The avenging host from the mainland descends on St. James. Nell and Nat take a part in the battle and the latter is wounded. Strang, whom Nat thought he had killed, orders him thrown into a dungeon. He finds Nell a fellow prisoner. They overhear the Mormon jury deciding their fate.

CHAPTER X.—Continued.

He shrieked the words again and again, maddened beyond control, and the Mormon king, whose self-possession was more that of devil than man, still held the struggling girl in his arms as he turned his head toward the voice and saw Nathaniel's long arm and knotted fist threatening him through the hole in the wall. Then Nell's name in a piercing scream resounded through the dungeon corridor and in response to it the man under Nathaniel straightened himself so quickly that his companion fell back to the floor.

"Great God! what is the matter, Nat? Quick! let me up!"

Nathaniel staggered to his feet, the breath half-gone out of his body, and in another instant Nell was at the opening. The great room into which he looked was empty.

"What was it?" he cried, leaping down. "What were they doing with Winnsome?"

"It was the king," said Nathaniel, struggling to master himself. "The king put his arms around Winnsome and—she struck him!"

"That was all?"

"He kissed her as she fought—and I yelled."

"She struck him!" Nell cried. "God bless little Winnsome, Nat! and—God bless her!"

Nell's breath came fast as he caught the other's hand.

"I'd give my life if I could help you—and Marion!"

"We'll give them together," said Nathaniel coolly, turning down the corridor. "Here's our chance. They'll come through that door to reload us in our cell. Shall we die fighting?"

He was groping about in the mud of the floor for some object.

"If we had a couple of stones—"

"It would be madness—worse than madness!" interposed Nell, steadying himself. "There will be a dozen rifles at that door when they open it. We must return to the cell. It is worth dying a harder death to hear from Marion and Winnsome. And we will hear from them before night."

They retreated into the dungeon. A few minutes later the door opened cautiously at the head of the corridor. A light blazed through the blackness and after an interval of silence the jailer made his appearance in front of the cell, a pistol in his hand.

"Don't be afraid, Jeckum," said Nell reassuringly. "You forgot the door and we've been having a little fun with the jury. That's all!"

The nervous whiteness left Jeckum's face at this cheerful report and he was about to close the door when Nathaniel exhibited a handful of gold pieces in the candle-light and frantically beckoned the man to come in. The jailer's eyes glittered understandingly and with a backward glance down the lighted corridor he thrust his head and shoulders inside.

"Five hundred dollars for that note!" he whispered. "Five hundred beside the four you've got!"

"Jeckum's a fool!" said Nell, as the door closed on them. "I feel sorry for him."

"Why?"

"Because he is accepting the money."

Don't you suppose that you have been searched? Of course you have—probably before I came, while you were half dead on the floor. Somebody knows that you have the gold."

"Why hasn't it been taken?"

"For a full minute Neil made no answer. And his answer, when it did come, first of all was a laugh."

"By George, that's good!" he cried exultingly. "Of course you were searched—and by Jeckum! He knows, but he hasn't made a report of it to Strang because he believes that in some way he will get hold of the money. He is taking a big risk—but he's winning! I wonder what his first scheme was?"

"Thought I'd bury it, perhaps," vouchsafed Nathaniel, throwing himself upon the straw. "There's room for two here, Nell."

A long silence fell between them. The action during the last few minutes had been too great an effort for Nathaniel and his wound troubled him again. As the pain and his terrible thoughts of Marion's fate returned to him he regretted that they had not ended it all in one last fight at the door. There, at least, they might have died like men instead of waiting to be shot down like dogs, their hands bound behind them, their breasts naked to the Mormon rifles. He did not fear death. In more than one game he had played against its hand, more often for love of the sport than not, but there was a horror in being penned up and tortured by it. He had come to look upon it as a fair enemy, filled, of course, with subterfuge and treachery, which were the laws of the game; but he had never dreamed of it as anything but merciful in its quickness. It was as if his adversary had broken an inviolable pact with him and he sweated and tossed on his bed of straw while Nell sat cool and silent on the bench against the dungeon wall. Sheer exhaustion brought him relief, and after a time he fell asleep.

He was awakened by Nell. The white face of Marion's brother was over him when he opened his eyes and he was shaking him roughly by the shoulder.

"Wake up, Nat!" he cried. "For heaven's sake—wake up!"

He drew back as Nathaniel sleepily roused himself.

"I couldn't help it, Nat," he apologized, laughing nervously. "You laid there like a dead man for hours. My head is splitting with this damned silence. Come—smoke up! I got some tobacco from our jailer and he loaned me his pipe."

Nathaniel jumped to his feet. A fresh candle was burning on the table and in its light he saw that a startling change had come into Nell's face during the hours he had slept. It looked

to him thinner and whiter, its lines had deepened, and the young man's eyes were filled with gloomy dejection.

"Why didn't you awaken me sooner?" he exclaimed. "I deserve a good drubbing for leaving you alone here!" He saw fresh food on the table. "It's late," he began.

"That is our dinner and supper," interrupted Nell. He held his watch close to the candle. "Half past eight!"

"And no word from—"

"No."

The two men looked deeply into each other's eyes.

"Jeckum delivered my note to her at noon when he was relieved," said Nell. "He did not carry it personally, but swears that he saw her receive it. He sent her word that he would call at a certain place for a reply when he was relieved again at five. There was no reply for him—not a word from Winnsome."

Their silence was painful. It was Nathaniel who spoke first, hesitatingly, as though afraid to say what was passing in his mind.

"I killed Winnsome's father, Nell," he said, "and Winnsome has demanded my death. I know that I am condemned to die. But you—" His eyes flashed sudden fire. "How do you know that my fate is to be yours? I begin to see the truth. Winnsome has not answered your note because she knows that you are to live and that she will see you soon. Between Winnsome and—Marion you will be saved!"

Nell had taken a piece of meat and was eating it as though he had not heard his companion's words.

"Help yourself, Nat. It's our last opportunity."

"You don't believe—"

"No. Lord, man, do you suppose that Strang is going to let me live to kill him?"

Somebody was fumbling with the chain at the dungeon door.

The two men stared as it opened slowly and Jeckum appeared. The jailer was highly excited.

"I've got word—but no note!" he

whispered hoarsely. "Quick! Is it worth—"

"Yes! Yes!"

Nathaniel dug the gold pieces out of his pockets and dropped them into the jailer's outstretched hand.

"I've had my boy watching Winnsome Croche's house," continued the sheriff, white with the knowledge of the risk he was taking. "An hour ago Winnsome came out of the house and went into the woods. My boy followed. She ran to the lake, got into a skiff, and rowed straight out to sea. She is following your instructions!"

In his excitement he betrayed himself. He had read the note.

There came a sound up the corridor, the opening of a door, the echo of voices, and Jeckum leaped back. Nathaniel's foot held the cell door from closing.

"Where is Marion?" he cried softly, his heart standing still with dread. "Great God—what about Marion?"

For an instant the sheriff's ghastly face was pressed against the opening.

"Marion has not been seen since morning. The king's officers are searching for her."

The door slammed, the chains clanked loudly, and above the sound of Jeckum's departure Nell's voice rose in a muffled cry of joy.

"They are gone! They are leaving the island!"

Nathaniel stood like one turned into stone. His heart grew cold with him. When he spoke his words were passionless echoes of what had been.

"You are sure that Marion would kill herself as soon as she became the wife of Strang?" he asked.

"Yes—before his vile hands touched more than the dress she wore!" shouted Nell.

"Then Marion is dead," replied Nathaniel, as coldly as though he were talking to the walls about him. "For last night Marion was forced into the arms of the king."

As he revealed the secret whose torture he meant to keep imprisoned in his own breast he dropped upon the pallet of straw and buried his face between his arms, cursing himself that he had weakened in these last hours of their comradeship.

He dared not look to see the effect of his words on Nell. His companion uttered no sound. Instead there was a silence that was terrifying.

At the end of it Nell spoke in a voice so strangely calm that Nathaniel sat up and stared at him through the gloom.

"I believe they are coming after us, Nat. Listen!"

The tread of many feet came to them faintly from beyond the corridor wall.

Nathaniel had risen. They drew close together, and their hands clasped.

"Whatever it may be," whispered Nell, "may God have mercy on our souls!"

"Amen!" breathed Captain Plum. (TO BE CONTINUED.)

DUG UP HIDDEN TREASURE

California Community Greatly Excited Over Mysterious Actions of Stranger.

The people of this community are wondering who was the mysterious stranger who visited the ancient adobe but a mile north of here a few evenings ago and dug up a box of can that had been buried there fifty years or more, says an Oakland correspondent of the San Francisco Chronicle. It is supposed he carried away a large quantity of gold bullion that belonged to Glanville Swift, an early day miner who lived in this but while operating in the mines in the hills east of Chico, leaving in the early '60s with nearly \$750,000 in gold, which took six weeks to weigh and required a pack train and strong guard to transport out of the country.

The stranger was seen loitering about the adobe but one evening, and a Mr. Fawcett, who lives near, tried to learn his mission, but failed. The next morning Fawcett found where a box or can had been dug up during the night. There were several stakes, showing that measurements had been made from a chart to locate the place to dig. Only one hole was made.

When Glanville Swift weighed his gold he found two or more large porter bottles of it missing. It is supposed they were stolen and buried and that this stranger learned of their whereabouts.

Longest Straightaway Bird Flight. Perhaps the longest straightaway flight made by birds in their migrations is accomplished by some of the shore and water birds that nest in the islands of Bering sea and spend the winter at Hawaii and Fanning Island, 2,200 miles away.

Inasmuch as some of these birds live entirely on the shore and are probably unable to rest on the surface of the water, it is thought that they must accomplish the whole distance in a single flight.

Yet, although there are no landmarks for them upon their long journey over a waste of waters, they make their way to their destination with the precision of a rifle shot.

Only Too Glad to Pay Tax. Inheritance taxes are not generally liked by those who have to pay them, but the eldest son of the Swiss engineer, Herr Brandt, who built the Simplon tunnel and died in 1908, is paying \$500,000 with the utmost satisfaction. The Swiss authorities discovered that Brandt possessed \$3,000,000 worth of property in Russia which he had failed to declare in his will. The son, who was unaware of the existence of this property, is only too glad to pay the fine of \$500,000 to secure a windfall of \$2,500,000.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

The Physical Bigness of Uncle Sam



WASHINGTON.—How many Americans realize the huge bulk of the population of their country, in the same sense that coal is heavy or the hay crop is immense in cubic feet? Just as a matter of physical bigness, this is a great nation, not in possessions but in people.

If all of the inhabitants of the United States, grownups and children, were to lie down in a long line, one person's head touching the feet of the one in front, there would be about 75,000 miles of such a human chain.

If every American stood up to be counted, in a long row of men, women and children, even if they stood so close together that they occupied only a foot and a half apiece, the file would be more than 25,000 miles long. It would girdle the earth at the equator.

Averaging the 93,000,000 people in the United States, young and old, adults and babies, at 100 pounds apiece, the American nation weighs 4,500,000 tons. That is enough to load 1,000 good-sized steamships with human freight, if it were piled in like coal or grain, with no regard whatever for space or air.

If the 93,000,000 Americans, babies included, drank, on the average, a pint of some liquid every day, which is an extremely modest estimate, the people of the United States consume

about 45,000,000 pints of water, beer, milk, coffee, tea, etc., every day. The quantity may be twice as much, or even more. But 45,000,000 pints is 1,125,000 barrels, or 900 freight cars of the large type, or 25 long trains about 25 long trains.

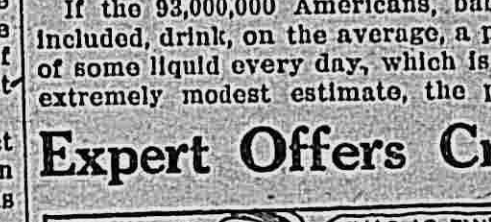
The physical bigness of Uncle Sam is impressive. It is not in any direction or calculated upon any basis. If the average American consumes solid food—bread, meat, potatoes, other vegetables, etc., etc.—only a pound and a half a day, that means 135,000,000 pounds, or 67,500 tons, every 24 hours.

On the strength gained by eating the roads upon the food stores of the world the people of the United States can easily lift 4,500,000 tons at the same instant. If they walk only one mile apiece in a day, which is certainly too low an estimate, the total is equal to walking three times around the earth at the equator, and more than half way around the fourth time.

If the clothing worn by the people of this country averages five pounds weight, shoes and hats included, of course, it follows that when everybody is ready to go outdoors the nation is about 225,000 tons heavier than it is when ready for bed. When Uncle Sam puts on his collar he uses more than 5,000 miles of cloth bands, without taking Mrs. Sam into account at all.

Truly we are a big nation. We bulk tremendously on the scales and under the tape measure. American quantity will evidently care for itself. Quality requires more attention in all countries.

Expert Offers Criticism of the Army



That the United States army is inferior in military organization to the armies of every other large nation of the world is the sentiment of H. Lee Clotworthy, military expert, associate editor of the United States Infantry Journal, and formerly a captain in the army. He asserts that Uncle Sam's military department is inefficient as a fighting machine, and that any one of the big powers—notably Japan—could "whip the daylight out of us without half trying."

"There are 30 regiments of infantry in the army," he says, "but hardly any one of them has been mobilized together in order to give the men the proper training. They are scattered all over the country at various needless military posts. Consequently, both officers and men suffer for lack of adequate drill, and would be absolutely unprepared to fight an army of real soldiers."

"There are a great many needless military posts. Of course, it is necessary to keep men in the Philippines and Alaska, but not in small towns. The latter type—known to military men as 'hitching posts'—were established years ago and small towns have grown up around them."

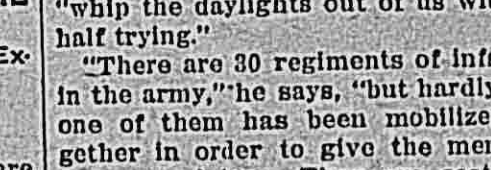
"These posts also are one of the principal causes of desertion. A recruit enlists because of visions about how grand it is to be a soldier. On arriving at some post, however, he finds he must be a carpenter, a gardener, or a telephone operator. At some stations half of the men employed in this way rather than occupying their time in learning to be soldiers."

"Instead of useless military posts, the army should be divided into large divisions, located at large central points. There are only 3,000 infantry men along the Pacific coast, where the present situation demands that a strong force be concentrated."

"If the trouble in Mexico, on our own frontier, had necessitated our men getting into action, we could not mobilize a full division there within a month. Even Mexico could teach us a severe lesson."

"The war department, however—has recognized the inefficiency of the army, and is taking steps to make it the soldiers."

Waste of Death Is Greatly Lessened



It is like stopping the waste of life in a great war. It is equivalent to warding off death 6,750 times every month, 1,687 every week, 241 times a day. It averts ten deaths every hour, one every six minutes day and night, from one year's end to the next.

If the economic value of the lives saved by lowering the death rate in the United States—the results of better and more careful living—is placed at no more than an average of \$1,000 apiece, the effect of cutting down the mortality \$1,000 in a year is much the same as preventing the waste of \$81,000,000 dealing with this great economy in human life on the hardest and narrowest industrial and commercial basis.

The gradual change for the better in respect to saving life and warding off death is not confined to the United States. It is going on in other countries, also. Throughout the civilized world, there is a general change for the better in the conditions of living and in the chances for life itself. The conservation of human life is one of the great interests and one of the best signs of the times.

Soldier Serves His Country 56 Years



Unusually spent on Governor's Island. He has seen generals and colonels come and go. He was a veteran when "Hancock's Superb" came to take command of the department of the east and the military division of the Atlantic. On Governor's Island he married and raised his family, and, looking northward from his island home, Robertson has seen the skies over Manhattan red with the fires of the draft riots and watched the transports which in later days sailed out laden with troops for distant possessions of the United States. He has seen the island upon which he lived grow from the small, unvalued spot which it was when he enlisted to the great military depot which it now is.

On Governor's Island there still exists a little graveyard where those who died in the great cholera epidemic of 1864 are buried. Robertson was a young man then and stuck, quietly and faithfully, to his post.

GOVERNOR'S ISLAND is to lose its oldest soldier. He is Sergt. David Robertson of the Hospital corps of the army, who has spent 56 years in the service and now, at the mature age of seventy-eight, has been recommended for retirement upon full pay and allowances. It will take a special bill, of course, to thus recognize the services of Robertson and major generals and brigadier generals have recommended to the secretary of war that he present to congress such a bill.

An interesting thing about the long and faithful service of Sergeant Robertson is that it has been almost con-

BLAST KILLS NINE

NEW YORK SHAKEN AND 125 PERSONS INJURED IN GAS EXPLOSION.

STREET CAR IS HURLED FAR

Four Passengers Lose Lives as Coach Falls Upon Auto—Scare in Hotels Near Grand Central Station.

New York.—Nine persons lost their lives, 125 were injured and a thousand people were shaken up in an explosion of car-lighting gas tanks in the new six-story power station of the New York Central railroad, under construction at Fifth and Lexington avenue.

Nine bodies were recovered and those of four workmen are believed to be in the wreckage.

Ceiling and windows in hospitals, schools and apartment houses were shattered, which caused innumerable minor hurts.

The blast picked up a north-bound trolley car, lifted it in the air and sent it crashing down upon an automobile which was passing on the other side of the street. Four of the passengers were killed and every one in the car was injured.

For some hours it was believed that a panic alone could have wrought such havoc, but Fire Chief Croker said he was convinced the whole explosion was due to a mixture of air and illuminating gas, used in lighting railroad cars, which had accumulated in the auxiliary power house from a broken pipe which was blown off by a runaway passenger car.

A list of the dead follows: John R. Jordan, track foreman; Elmer L. Jordan, New York Central Pullman car; C. W. Jordan, railroad employe; C. W. Jordan, stenographer; William Jordan, teacher; Charles Jordan, clerk in Adams Express company; John R. Jordan, watchman.

Thomas Jordan, and Hayes and Father O'Connor, St. Patrick's cathedral hurried to the scene and administered the last rites of the church to the most seriously injured.

The house of fire at No. 8, Lexington avenue and Grand street, is practically demolished. The walls are cracked and the structure is out of commission. Battalion Chief Duffy and the other firemen were hurled to the floor and received injuries.

At the Bible school in Lexington avenue, directly opposite the power house, 115 men and women were thrown to the floor. Many were injured and several were taken to hospitals.

At the post office substation at Fortieth street and Madison avenue the explosion slightly injured several clerks and threw the mail over the floor. In the New York Nursery and Child's hospital ceilings were shaken down and windows broken, but none of the 300 children was hurt.

The damage to the power house and other buildings has not been estimated, but it was stated that it will exceed \$500,000.

WHITE IS CHIEF JUSTICE

Democrat Elevated by Republican President Takes Oath of Office—Harlan Does Honors.

Washington.—Associate Justice Edward Douglass White of the Supreme court of the United States became ninth chief justice of that august body when the oath of allegiance was administered by Associate Justice Harlan Monday.

The public ceremony of the installation was simple, the oath being taken in the seclusion of the robing room of the justices.

Chief Justice White was embarrassed when he moved to his seat at the center of the bench. Presiding Justice Harlan announced the presence of the new chief justice and extended the congratulations of the court. Clerk McKenney read the commission, Justice Harlan administered the judicial oath and moved aside to take his old position at the right hand of the chief justice, vacating the chair which he has filled since the death of Chief Justice Fuller. Chief Justice White sank into the chair with a smile for his wife and other relatives who were present.

In a few moments the holiday recess until January 3 was announced and the black robed justices filed solemnly from the room.

For the first time in history an associate justice had been elevated to the chief justiceship, and for the first time a president and senate of one political party had honored a member of a rival party by placing him at the head of the highest court in the land.

Many Die as Island Sinks. Port Limon, Costa Rica.—A message from Salvador Sunday announced that 70 families, comprising about 170 men, women and children, were drowned when an island on which their homes were located sank following an earthquake shock.

Ninety Prisoners Join Rebels. Washington.—Private telegrams received here Monday stated that 90 prisoners taken by the Mexican revolutionists at Ojinaga, have joined the insurgents.

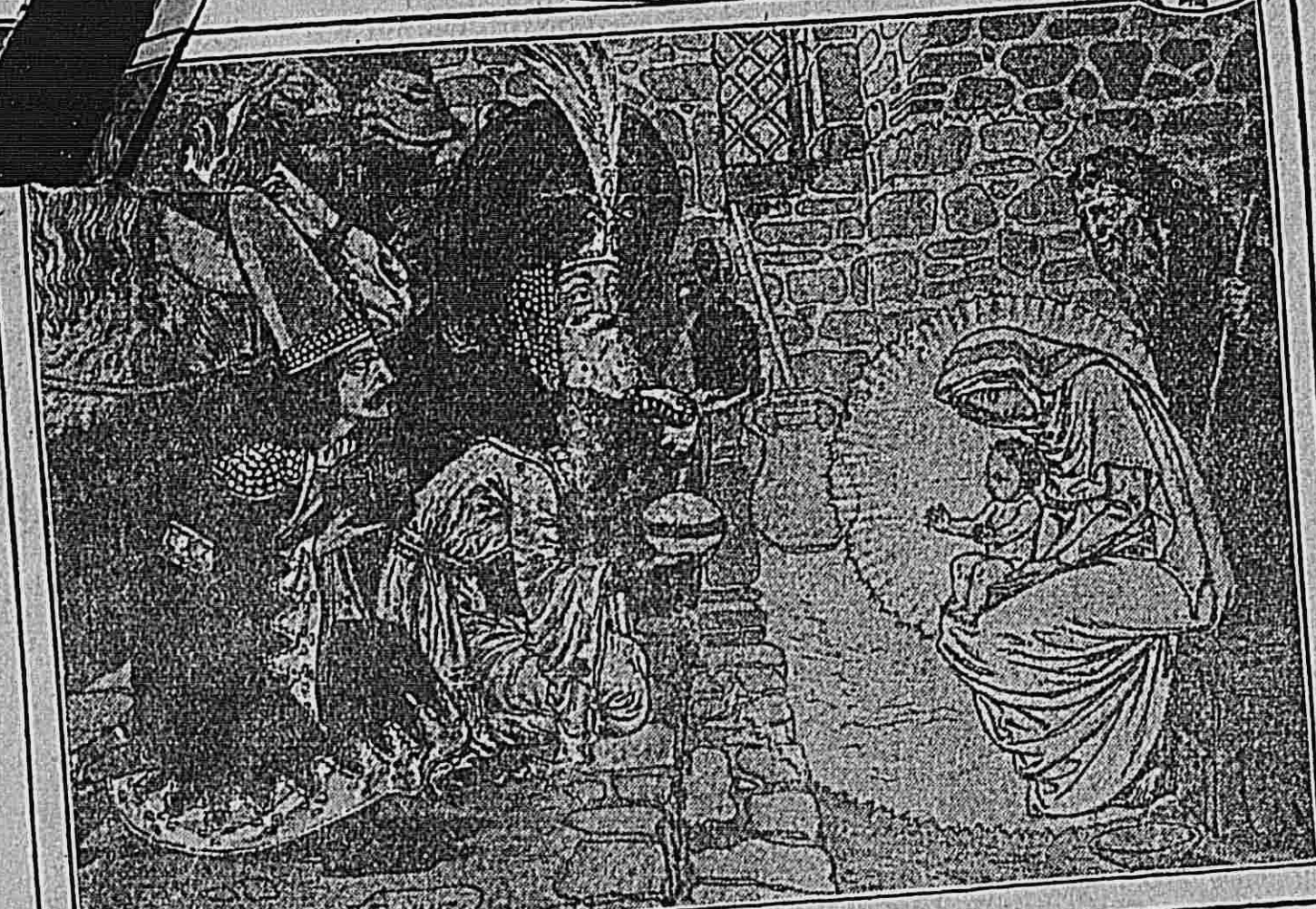
Balthasar

A Tale of the Three Wise Men by Anatole France



In those days Balthasar, called Saracen by the Grecians, reigned over Ethiopia. He was black but comely, simple of mind and generous of heart. In the third year of his reign, which was the twenty-second of his age, he went to visit Balkis, queen of Sheba, accompanied by the mage Sembobitis and by the eunuch Menkera. He had a train of seventy-five camels, with loads of cinnamon, myrrh, gold powder and elephant tusks. While they were journeying Sembobitis would teach Balthasar the influence of the planets and the secret virtues of stones, and Menkera would sing liturgical songs to him, but he was not listening to them, being intent upon looking at the little jackals which were sitting, with ears erect, on the horizon.

At last, after a march of twelve days, Balthasar and his companions smelt the smell of roses and they soon gazed upon the gardens which surrounded the town of Sheba. There they met young maidens dancing under blossoming pomgranates. When they came into the town, they were amazed at the size of the storehouses and the workyards, which were stretching out as far as the eye could see, as well as at the large quantities of merchandise stored in them. For a long time they walked along streets thronged with porters, donkeys and donkey carts, with chariots, marble walls, the purple tents of the king, until the palace came in sight. The queen of Sheba received them in a court cooled with fountains, and in a tower which fell in pearly showers of perfumed wafting sound. She was dressed in robes and she was smiling at them in bejeweled robes. When he saw her, Balthasar was deeply troubled. She appeared to him sweeter than a sweet dream. "My lord," Sembobitis murmured to him, "be careful to conceal your feelings. A good treaty of commerce with the queen is a good treaty of commerce with the king." "Take heed, my lord," said Menkera, "for of men."



he could not utter a word, and he thought to himself: "The queen will be angry at my silence."

But the queen was still smiling and did not look angry.

She spoke first and said, in a voice sweeter than music:

"Be welcome and sit down."

And, with a finger which looked like a ray of light, she beckoned him to some purple cushions on the floor.

Balthasar sat down, sighed a big sigh, and seizing hold of a cushion with each hand, he exclaimed hurriedly:

"Madame, I wish these two cushions were giants and your enemies, so that I might wring their necks."

And, speaking thus, he squeezed the cushions so hard in his clenched fists that they burst, letting out a cloud of white down. One of the little feathers whirled round in the air for some time and then alighted on the queen's neck.

"My lord Balthasar," said Balkis, blushing, "why do you want to kill giants?"

"Because I love you," said Balthasar.

"Tell me," said Balkis, "is the water of wells sweet in your capital?"

"Yes," answered Balthasar, much surprised.

"I also would like to know," resumed Balkis, "how they prepare dried fruits in Ethiopia."

The king did not know what to say; but he pressed him:

"Tell me, now, if you would please me."

Then, with a great effort of memory, he described the practice of Ethiopian makers of sweets, which consisted of stewing quinces in honey. But she was not listening to him. Ten, all of a sudden:

"My lord, they say that you are in love with Queen Candace, your neighbor. Tell me truly, is she fairer of face than I?"

"Oh! Madam, how could that be?"—and Balthasar fell on his knees at Balkis's feet.

The queen continued: "Then, her eyes? her mouth? her complexion?"

Balthasar, stretching a hand toward her, said:

"Let me take the little feather which has

alighted on your neck, and I will give you one-half of my kingdom, with the sage Sembobitis and Menkera—the eunuch in the bargain."

But she got up and ran away laughing a clear-ringing laugh.

That evening Balthasar had supper with the queen of Sheba and drank palm wine.

"So, really," said Balkis during the supper, "Queen Candace is not so fair of face as I am?"

"Queen Candace is black," answered Balthasar.

Balkis glanced at Balthasar and said:

"One can be black and comely."

"Balkis!" exclaimed the king.

He could say no more. Seizing her in his embrace he held the queen's forehead beneath his lips. But he saw that she was weeping. Then he spoke to her in a low, caressing, lightly singing voice, as a nurse would to her babe, and he called her his little flower and his little star.

"Why dost thou weep?" said he, "and what must I do that thou mayest weep no more? If thou hast any wish, tell it me, and I shall do even as thou wishest."

She had ceased weeping, and now she was in a dreamy mood. For a long time he pressed her to tell him her wish.

At last she said:

"I wish to feel fear."

As Balthasar did not seem to understand, she explained to him that for a long time she had been wishing to be exposed to some unknown danger, but that she could not, because both the men and the gods of Sheba were watching over her.

"And yet," she added with a sigh, "I should so like to feel, during the night, the cold and delightful thrill of fear go through my flesh! I should so like to feel my hair stand on end! Oh! how delightful it would be to be afraid!"

She threw her arms round the neck of the black king and said, in the voice of a beseeching child:

"Here is night coming down upon us. Let us both go through the town in disguise. Will you not come?"

He assented and she, running to the window, looked through the lattice into the public square.

ing lamp, through the thick atmosphere of the place, reeking brutes fighting with fists or knives for a cup of fermented drink, while others slept, with closed fists, under the tables.

Balkis, perceiving some salt fish hanging from the rafters of the roof, said to her companion:

"I should like to eat of that salt fish with pounded onions."

Balthasar ordered the dish, but when she had finished eating, he discovered that he had taken no money with him. He took little concern and thought they could go out without paying. But the innkeeper barred their way, calling him a slave and calling her a donkey, at which Balthasar knocked him down with his fist. Some of the men, with uplifted knives, rushed upon the two strangers. But the black king, seizing hold of an enormous pestle used for pounding Egyptian onions, crushed two of his aggressors and compelled the others to retreat. He felt Balkis by his side, which made him invincible. The friends of the innkeeper, not daring to approach, hurried at him, from the back of the shop, oil jars and cups, lighted lamps, and even the enormous brass pot wherein a whole sheep was stewing. The pot fell with a crash on Balthasar's head and split it. He was stunned for an instant, but, gathering up his strength, he hurled the pot back with such vigor that the weight of it was increased tenfold. The crash of the falling metal was mingled with horrible groans, and with the shrieks of the dying. Taking advantage of the terror of the survivors and fearing lest Balkis should be hurt, Balthasar took her in his arms and ran with her through the dark and deserted streets.

"I love thee," whispered the queen.

And now the moon, peeping from behind a cloud, revealed, in Balkis's half-closed eyes, a ray of light damp with tears. They were going down the dry bed of a torrent. All of a sudden Balthasar's foot slipped on some moss and they fell down holding one another in a tight embrace. It seemed to them as if the world of the living had ceased to exist. And when at dawn gazelles came to drink from the hollows of the stones, the lovers were still wrapped in oblivion.

"There is a beggar," she said, "lying against the wall of the palace. Give him your clothes and ask him to give you, in exchange, his turban of camel's hair and the coarse cloth which girdles his loins. Make haste while I get ready."

And she ran out of the banquet hall, clapping her hands for joy.

Balthasar took off his tunic made of fine linen and all embroidered with gold, and tied the beggar's cloth round his loins. He looked a true slave. The queen soon reappeared in the seamless blue gown of the poor women who worked in the fields.

"Let us go!" she said, and led Balthasar through narrow lobbies down to a small gate.

At the same moment some brigands happened to pass by and saw the two lying on the moss.

Then they tied them to the tail of a donkey and went along their way with them.

The black king was hurling threats of death at them, but Balkis, although slightly shivering in the cold air of dawn, seemed to smile at some inward thought.

They walked through barren solitudes until the heat of the day began to make itself felt.

She was now laughing, and the brigand chief having asked her the reason why, she replied: "I am laughing at the thought of having you all hanged."

"Truly, my beauty!" exclaimed the brigand chief, "that is strange talk in the mouth of a scrubber of pots! And your black gallant? he will probably help you?"

On hearing these insulting words, Balthasar was incensed with rage; he threw himself upon the brigand and squeezed his neck so hard that he nearly strangled him.

But the brigand stuck his knife into him, and the poor king, rolling on the ground, looked at Balkis with eyes in which all life soon seemed to be extinct.

III.

But now there came a big roar of armed horsemen and Balkis saw brave Abner who, at the head of her guards, came to release his queen, of whose mysterious disappearance he had heard the day before.

The mage Sembobitis and Menkera the eunuch who were standing by Abner's side gave a loud cry when they saw their prince lying motionless with a knife in his side. They raised him with the utmost care. Sembobitis, who was well versed in medical science, saw that he was still breathing. He dressed the wound while Menkera wiped the froth from the king's lips. Then they tied him on a horse and bore him gently to the queen's palace.

For a space of fifteen days Balthasar remained in a state of mad delirium. He spoke continually of the brass pot and of the moss in the torrent bed, and cried out for Balkis. On the sixteenth day, having opened his eyes, he saw Sembobitis and Menkera by his bedside, but he did not see the queen.

"Where is she? What is she doing?"

"My lord," said Menkera, "she is in private conversation with the king of Comagene."

"I must see her!" cried Balthasar.

And he rushed out toward the queen's apartment before the old man and the eunuch could stop him. When he came near the bed chamber he saw the king of Comagene coming out of it, all bedecked with gold and as bright as the sun.

Balkis, lying on a purple bed, with closed eyes, was smiling.

"Oh Balkis! Oh my own!" cried Balthasar. She turned a cold and hard gaze on him, and he saw that she had forgotten everything, and he reminded her of that night in the torrent bed.

"I really do not know what you mean, my lord. Palm wine agrees not with you. You must have been dreaming."

She rose to her feet and the gems in her gown clashed like hailstones and shone like lightning.

"My lord," she said, "now is the time when my privy council must assemble. I have no leisure for explaining the dreams of a diseased brain. Take some rest. Adieu!"

Balthasar felt as if he was going to die, but he made an effort to hide his weakness from the wicked woman, and, flying to his room, he fainted, his wound having opened again.

IV.

For three weeks he remained insensible, as if dead, and on the twenty-second day, when he came back to life again, he clasped the hand of Sembobitis, who, together with Menkera, had been watching over him, and he said, with tears:

"Oh! my friends, how happy you both are! But not there is no happiness at all in this world, and everything in it is bad, since love is

an evil and since Balkis is a wicked woman."

"To be wise is to be happy," answered Sembobitis.

"Then I will try to be wise," said Balthasar. "But let us return at once to Ethiopia. And, as he had lost all that he loved, he resolved to devote himself to wisdom and to become a sage. He had a tower built, from the top of which one could see several kingdoms and the vast expanse of the heavens. He used to go to its top every night, there to study the heavens under the direction of the sage Sembobitis.

"Sembobitis," he would say, "dost thou answer on thy head for the accuracy of my horoscopes?"

And the sage Sembobitis would reply:

"My lord, science is infallible, but savants are not."

Balthasar, who had a fine natural genius, would say:

"Divine truth is the only truth, but it is hidden from us and we seek it in vain. And yet I have just discovered a new star in the heavens. It is a beautiful star, which seems as if it were living, and when it scintillates, it looks like some heavenly eye looking kindly down upon men. I sometimes even imagine that the star is speaking to me. Blessed shall be he who shall be born under that star!"

V.

But it had been noised abroad, through the whole extent of Ethiopia and through the neighboring kingdoms that Balthasar was no longer in love with Balkis.

When the news reached Sheba, Balkis resented it bitterly. She commanded her grand vizier to get everything ready for a journey to Ethiopia.

"We shall start this very night," she said, "and thou shalt lose thy head if everything is not ready before the sun sinks to rest."

And when she was alone she burst into sobs.

"I love him and he loves me not!" she cried in all sincerity.

Then one night Balthasar, who was on the top of his tower, observing the miraculous star, saw on looking down toward the earth, a long black line winding along the sands of the desert, like an army of ants.

As the caravan came nearer Balthasar saw distinctly the bright scimitars and the black horses of the queen's guards.

Then he saw her also; and he was troubled amazingly, and he felt that he was going to love her again. The star was shining in the zenith with marvelous brilliancy. Beneath, Balkis, in her litter of purple and gold, looked quite small, and she also shone like a star.

Balthasar felt drawn toward her as if by some irresistible force. But, turning his face from her with a great effort and lifting up his eyes, he saw the star again, and the star spoke and said:

"Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth to men of good will!"

"Take thou a measure of myrrh, sweet King Balthasar, and follow me, and I shall lead thee to the Child who has just been born in a stable between a donkey and an ox."

"For that Child is the King of Kings, and he will comfort those who wish to be comforted."

"He calls thee, Balthasar, whose mind is still as dark as thy visage, but whose heart is simple, even as the heart of a child."

"He has chosen thee because thou hast suffered, and he will give thee riches, joy and love."

"He will say to thee: be poor and rejoice in thy poverty, for that is indeed true riches. He will say: true joy lies in the renunciation of joy; love me and love men because of me for I am the only true love."

At these words peace divine shone like a bright light on the dark face of the king.

Queen Balkis, looking up toward Balthasar, knew that no love for her could fill that heart now full of love divine, and, turning, she ordered her caravan back to Sheba.

When the star ceased to speak the king and his two companions came down from the tower, and having procured a measure of myrrh, they formed a caravan and followed the star which went before them.

One day, being at a place where three roads met, they saw two kings who were coming with long trains of followers. One of them was young and white of face. He greeted Balthasar and said:

"My name is Gaspar, I am a king and I am taking a present of gold to the Child who has been born in Bethlehem of Judea."

The second king also approached. He was an old man and his white beard flowed to his girdle.

"My name is Melchior," he said. "I am a king and I am taking a present of frankincense to the Divine Child who has come to teach truth to men."

"I am going thither also," said Balthasar. "I have vanquished my lust and therefore did the star speak unto me."

"I," said Melchior, "have vanquished my pride and therefore was I called."

"I," said Gaspar, "have vanquished my cruelty and therefore do I go with you."

And, lo, the star which they saw in the east went before them till it came and stood over where the young Child was.

When they saw the star they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

And when they were come into the house they saw the young Child with Mary his mother, and fell down and worshipped him; and when they had opened their treasures they presented unto him gifts: gold, and frankincense, and myrrh—as it is said in the gospel.

As only a little over one acre in 100 of Ireland is under timber, great results are expected from the reforesting movement now in progress.

"Marriage," said the serious man, "is an education in itself." "Yes," commented old Grouch, "it teaches you what not to do after you've done it."

"That the person who finds fault invariably insists upon returning it to the owner," concluded he of the prelude.

"Did the audience weep while I was singing?" asked the temperamental soprano. "No," replied the music director, "you were making that noise all by yourself."

Interested.
"What did the rhinoceros do when you fired at him?" asked the eager listener. "He just stood still and watched me run."

T. P. DURKIN, **CHICAGO** **Special Representative**

ILLINOIS

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LORIMER GUILTY

INVESTIGATORS PRESENT PRE-DICTED VERDICT TO FULL COMMITTEE OF SENATE.

BRIBE EVIDENCE IS NOTED

But Senator Held Innocent of Use of Money—Enough Votes Left Even If Some Were Bought—His Majority Not Impaired.

Washington.—Senator Lorimer received a clean bill of health Saturday from the subcommittee of the senate committee on privileges and elections, which investigated charges of bribery in connection with his election. The report of the investigation was made to the full committee.

The report is unanimous, being signed by the seven members of the committee which conducted the investigation.

All the members of the full committee were present with the exception of Bulkeley of Connecticut, Frazier of Tennessee and Johnston of Alabama. No final disposition was made of the report, but there will be another meeting of the full committee Tuesday, when it is expected the report will be accepted by the full committee and be presented to the senate before adjournment for the holiday recess on Wednesday.

Chairman Burrows, who prepared the report of the investigating committee, read it to the full committee. It was in typewritten form. Close attention prevailed during its reading, and at its conclusion the committee ordered it printed.

Copies of the testimony taken in the case at Chicago and Washington were ready for distribution among the members of the full committee and it is expected that some of them will read portions of the evidence before the committee meets. So far as can be discovered, however, there is no minority report in sight, but some of the members of the committee may desire to express in brief form their views on the character of the evidence collected.

With regard to bribery practised in the Illinois legislature the subcommittee reports that the evidence failed to connect Mr. Lorimer with the use of money in promoting his election. The committee does not declare that there was bribery, but under a long line of precedents the field of investigation laid out for itself by the committee was to ascertain whether Mr. Lorimer could be connected with the bribery.

Having disposed of that question, there was only one more for the committee to consider. That was whether Mr. Lorimer's constitutional majority had been impaired by bribery. On the roll call on which he was elected May 27, 1909, Mr. Lorimer received 108 votes, or six more than the 102 which were required to give him a majority.

Had the committee found evidence which proved that at least seven members of the Illinois legislature had been bribed to vote for Mr. Lorimer it would have to report that he is not entitled to a seat in the senate. According to report of the investigating committee, the evidence failed to impair Mr. Lorimer's constitutional majority. Accepting the testimony offered and giving it full credence, the committee finds that Mr. Lorimer would still have a majority of three more than the actual number of votes required to elect him.

PRESIDENT SEES NO DANGER

Taft, in Speech Allays War Scare, Declares National Need Have No Fear.

Washington.—President Taft, in an address before the American Society for the Judicial Settlement of International Disputes, Saturday gave assurances that the country need not fear the so-called war scare.

He said: "There is not the slightest reason for such a sensation because we are at peace with all the nations of the world, and are quite likely to remain so."

Moreover, the president declared he does not find our army ineffective and inefficient, though he said more trained officers are needed and that we ought to have ammunition and guns enough for ready use in cases of emergency.

"A little more forethought, a little more attention to the matter on the part of congress," he said, "and we shall have all of the army and all of the munitions and material of war that we ought to have in a republic situated as we are, 3,000 miles on the one hand, and 5,000 miles on the other, from the source of hostile invasion."

The president declared the United States had excellent coast defenses for every important harbor that an enemy would enter.

Munich Professors in Revolt. Berlin.—A dispatch to the Lokal Anzeiger from Munich Saturday says that the oath disavowing modernism required of theological professors by the Vatican has caused a schism in the faculty at the University of Munich.

Women May Smoke in Hotel. New York.—One of the new fashion hotels in New York, under management, has lifted the ban which forbids women to smoke in the hotel.

TURKS CRUCIFIED BY ARABS

BEDOUINS BEGIN ATTACK ON CHRISTIANS IN SYRIA.

Hundreds of Women Are Carried Away as Slaves—Some Dead Bodies Badly Mutilated.

Jerusalem.—Following their massacre of Turkish soldiers the Bedouins of Syria have begun an attack on the Christians whom they spared at the beginning of their uprising; according to reports which reach here.

Later news of the attack on the garrison at Kerak shows that the Bedouins subjected their captives to the most barbarous cruelties. Nineteen Turkish officers of rank were among many prisoners crucified while their torturers, chanting incantations, danced about them and other prisoners looked on. Hundreds of women captured when the garrison was stormed were carried off as slaves. Some of the dead bodies were badly mutilated.

The Bedouins are the most savage of the desert tribes. Lacking wholly in human compassion, they derive pleasure from torturing their victims. One method of slaying their prisoners is to bind them hand and foot and drive camels over the prostrate bodies.

The tribesmen fight with great bravery, though with antique weapons used half a century ago. They are superb horsemen and unerring marksmen.

WORKING FOR WORLD PEACE

American Society for Judicial Settlement of International Disputes Begins Conference.

Washington.—Universal peace, the disarmament of that great drain upon a nation's resources, the standing army, and the establishment of an international court of justice where disputes arising between nations can be settled without recourse to war, have been agitated by philosophers, political economists and the clergy for centuries. It was to this end that the Hague Peace Conference convened; and these motives actuated the forming of the American Society for Judicial Settlement of International Disputes, which met here Thursday for a three-day conference. The meeting is attended by the president of the United States, some of the foremost citizens of the republic, and emissaries from the leading countries of Europe. The presence of these representatives of foreign governments lends an international tone to the conference and adds to its importance as a factor in forwarding this work.

ST. LOUIS BALL CLUB SOLD

R. T. Hedges Transfers His Stock in "Browns" to Syndicate—Price Not Made Public.

St. Louis.—Attorneys representing R. T. Hedges, majority owner of the St. Louis American league baseball team, and a local syndicate signed a contract transferring Hedges' holdings to the syndicate. The consideration was not named.

The principal purchasers of the stock are E. M. Hodgman, Mark and Nathaniel Ewing, Louis M. Hall and Edward Prendergast.

New York.—It was decided by the National League of Baseball Clubs to make the schedule 154 games for the 1911 season. Last season 168 games were played. The games will start on April 12 and end about October 12.

With the decision to play 154 games the magnates of the National league concluded their meeting here.

SENATORS FOR DIRECT VOTE

Judiciary Subcommittee Will Report Favorably a Resolution for a Constitutional Amendment.

Washington.—By a vote of two to one, a subcommittee of the senate committee on judiciary authorized a favorable report on a resolution for a constitutional amendment to provide for the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people. The majority of the subcommittee was Senators Borah and Rayner, and the minority was Senator Dillingham.

PLEAS FOR FORTS AT PANAMA

Roosevelt in Lecture at Nobel Peace Meeting Says Guns Best Weapon for Peace.

Cambridge, Mass.—Frowning forts at both ends of the Panama canal, forts with guns ready for the instant annihilation of any foreign fleet that dares to molest the supremacy of the United States, were urged by Col. Theodore Roosevelt as the most formidable weapon that America can offer in the interest of world peace.

Four Slain in London Raid.

London.—Four persons are dead as a result of a revolver fight between police and burglars in a house in Cutler street Saturday. Three of the victims were policemen and the fourth was a member of a gang of robbers.

Fez Postal Station Pillaged.

Paris.—A dispatch from Tangier says a courier arrived Saturday reporting that the postal station at Fez had been pillaged by a band of robbers.

HOW TO GET A RAISE



IF YOUR SALARY ISN'T SATISFACTORY, JOIN THE NAVY.

FUND TO END WAR

CARNEGIE GIVES \$10,000,000 TO ESTABLISH WORLD PEACE AND ATTACK EXISTING EVILS.

TRUSTEES PUT IN CONTROL

Perpetual Fund Formed by Ironmaster With Taft as Honorary Head and Prominent Men as Trustees—Later Choose Elihu Root as Chief.

Washington.—Surrounded by 27 trustees of his own choosing comprising former cabinet members, ex-ambassadors, college president, lawyers and educators, Andrew Carnegie Wednesday transferred \$10,000,000 of five per cent. first-mortgage bonds, value \$11,500,000, to be devoted primarily to the establishment of universal peace by the abolition of war between the nations of the earth.

The trustees organized by choosing as president United States Senator Elihu Root, permanent representative of the United States at The Hague tribunal. President Taft has consented to be honorary president of the foundation.

The method by which the annual income of half a million dollars shall be expended is left by Mr. Carnegie entirely to the trustees. The foundation is to be perpetual and when the establishment of universal peace is attained the donor provides that the revenue shall be devoted to the banishment of the "next most degrading evil or evils," the suppression of which would "most advance the progress, elevation and happiness of men."

The informal trust deed presented by Mr. Carnegie to the trustees reads as follows:

"Gentlemen: I have transferred to you as trustees of the Carnegie peace fund \$10,000,000 five per cent. first-mortgage bonds, value \$11,500,000, the revenue of which is to be administered by you to hasten the abolition of international war, the foulest blot upon our civilization. Although we no longer eat our fellow men or torture prisoners, or sack cities, killing their inhabitants, we still kill each other in war like barbarians. Only wild beasts are excusable for doing that in this, the twentieth century of the Christian era; for the crime of war is inherent, since it decides not in favor of the right but always of the strong. The nation is criminal which refuses arbitration and drives its adversary to a tribunal which knows nothing of righteous judgment.

"Let my trustees, therefore, ask themselves from time to time, from age to age, how they can best help man in his glorious ascent upward and toward to this end devote this fund.

"Thanking you for your cordial acceptance of the trust and your hearty approval of its object, I am, very gratefully, yours,

"ANDREW CARNEGIE."

LAND MEN ARE ACCUSED

Seven Colorado Residents Are Indicted for Using Mails Fraudulently.

Washington.—Indictments were returned against seven Colorado men for using the mails to exploit an irrigation scheme which is pronounced to be "wildly and flagrantly fraudulent" by the officials of the interior department.

The indictments came as a result of the efforts of the interior and post office departments.

Women Voters to Assemble. Tacoma, Wash.—The first national convention of women voters will be held here January 14, according to plans perfected. The convention was called by Governor Brady of Idaho. Delegates from other equal suffrage states—Utah, Wyoming, Colorado and Washington—representing about 270,000 women voters, will participate.

Daylight Raid on a Bank. Tulsa, Okla.—Robbers held up Cashier J. H. Comer of the First State bank at Tulsa, Okla., at the point of a revolver Friday, took what money was in sight and escaped. The amount taken has not been ascertained.

Ship's Crew Rescued. Boston.—The schooner Stephen C. Wood of Thomaston, Me., was abandoned in Massachusetts bay Friday in a sinking condition and her frost-bitten crew rescued by the steamer A.

SEEK TO ATTACK COAL MERGE

IMPORTANT ARGUMENT MADE OVER FORM OF DECREE.

Attorney for Government Asks to Have Certain Trust Charges Dismissed "Without Prejudice."

Philadelphia.—The form of decree to be issued by the United States circuit court in the government's suit against the alleged anthracite coal combination was the subject of a long argument in that court which brought out several questions of great importance to coal carrying railroads.

The government, through J. C. Reynolds, contended that the decree should specifically state that the government's allegation that the Reading and Jersey Central and the Erie and New York, Susquehanna and Western were illegal combinations should be dismissed "without prejudice."

The attorney said the merger of the Reading and the Jersey Central brought under one management the control of 63 per cent of the unmined anthracite coal in the country and the government may at some time feel it its duty to look into this merger.

With regard to the Temple Iron company the government asked that the corporation be decreed to be "itself a combination" in restraint of trade and that the defendant railroads be enjoined from continuing the combination or from transferring their interests to individuals or companies controlled by them. The court will hand down its decree next Tuesday.

HADLEY COMMISSION MEETS

Will Investigate Federal Regulation of Issues of Stocks and Bonds of Interstate Carriers.

New York.—The stocks and bonds commission, appointed by President Taft under the authority of the railway act of the last session of congress to investigate and report on the best method for federal regulation of issues in this city Wednesday, with President Arthur T. Hadley in the chair.

At the present hearing members of the interstate commerce commission will give their views on the federal control of railway securities, the testimony of the various state railway commissioners will be taken and a voluminous correspondence will be carried on with a view to collecting information to be used as a basis of the commission's report. Among those attending the hearing are Walter L. Fisher of Chicago, F. N. Judson of St. Louis, Frederick Strauss of New York and B. H. Meyer of Madison, Wis.

REBELS WHIP DIAZ'S TROOPS

Battle Near La Junta, Lasting Several Hours, Results in Complete Victory for Insurgents.

El Paso, Tex.—Mexican federal troops were completely overthrown in an engagement lasting several hours Friday at La Junta, a small town near Minaca, on the Mexico Northwestern and Orient railroads, according to authoritative information received by the railroad officials.

It is said the remnant of the federal troops, numbering 150, surrendered their arms and ammunition and were allowed to depart in the direction of Chihuahua.

As telegraph wires were cut in many places no details of the battle can be secured.

TRAPPED ROBBER KILLS SELF

Holds Up Bank, Ties Five Employees, Escapes With \$2,500—Surrounded by posse.

Salina, Kan.—Earl Ward, thirty years old, who robbed the State bank of Paradise, at Paradise, Kan., securing \$2,500, killed himself when surrounded by a posse of farmers 14 miles north of that place.

Tea Consumption Estimated. New York.—The world's annual consumption of tea is 1,250,000,000 pounds, according to figures given out by a market statistician here Saturday. China produces 60 per cent of this total.

Landslide in Italy Kills Four. Naples.—A landslide at Pisciotta, in the province of Salerno, Saturday, caused the death of four persons and the serious injury of several others. One house collapsed and nine were damaged.

A PENNY TO PAY

LEST MEDICAL EXAMINATION

renewed. Anyon has engaged a staff of specialists that are their line.

He has no question about their ability; they are the finest physicians and hospitals have turned out and receive the highest salaries.

He wants your service to you absolutely free of cost. No matter how many doctors you have tried, write to Professor Munyon and they will give you a careful and prompt attention to what you want to do. You are under no obligations to your letter. It will cost you a penny, only the postage stamp you put on your letter.

All correspondence should be strictly confidential. Address: Munyon's Laboratories, 53d & Jefferson Streets, Philadelphia.

Some women who have small hair have small hair.

Lewis' Single Bin straight 50 cigars—\$1.00.

Why is it that a man who takes a small man takes a small man?

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Laxative and Invigorant Stomach and Liver Regulator. Sugar-coated, tiny, granules. Do not gripe.

Cause and Effect. "He's a poet of passion. I'll be sure to see him when his verses were returned."

Important to Mothers. Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see the Signature of J. C. Watson.

In Use For Over 30 Years. The Kind You Have Always Bought.

Of Course She Must. "What time does the dance begin?" "Nine o'clock."

"Then we must be there at 8:30."

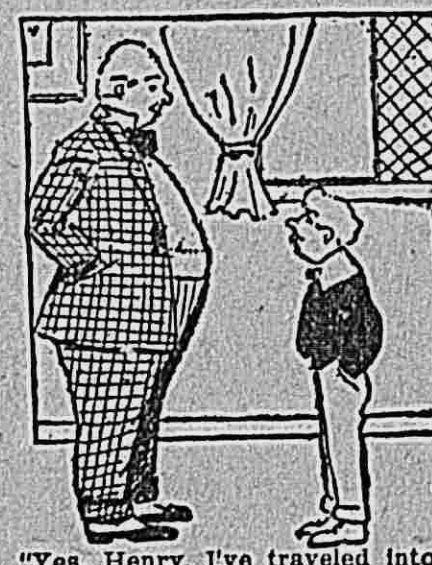
"What for?" "I must have at least an hour in the dressing room to rearrange my hair."

Stepmother of Mint Julep. Romance and poetry have delighted to weave garlands with which to celebrate and perpetuate the glory of the blue grass in old Kentucky, famed for its fine horses, beautiful women and mint.

Kentucky has been designated as the home of the mint julep, and its colonels have become famous all over the world for the easy and graceful way in which they drink whisky with a little dash of sugar and a sprig or two of mint in order, chiefly, to overcome the necessity for a large amount of water in the beverage. The true Kentuckian doesn't want his whisky drowned.

It transpires, however, that the real home of the mint and the mint julep is right here in Missouri, whose crop of mint last year amounted to 7,653 pounds, or enough to make 1,224,320 juleps. This amount includes the marketed product only, no account having been taken of the countless thousands of juleps which were compounded during the year with a base of the undiluted moonshine whisky that never paid a cent of tax—St. Louis Star.

ACCURACY



"Yes, Henry, I've traveled into every corner of the globe."

"The globe is a spherical body, uncle. Therefore it has no corners!"—Chips.

WONDERED WHY.

Found the Answer Was "Coffee."

Many pale, sickly persons wonder for years why they have to suffer so, and eventually discover that the drug—caffeine—in coffee is the main cause of the trouble.

"I was always very fond of coffee and drank it every day. I never had much flesh and often wondered why I was always so pale, thin and weak."

"About five years ago my health completely broke down and I was confined to my bed. My stomach was in such condition that I could hardly take sufficient nourishment to sustain life."

"During this time I was drinking coffee, didn't think I could do without it."

"After awhile I came to the conclusion that coffee was hurting me, and decided to give it up and try Postum. I didn't like the taste of it at first, but when it was made right—billed until dark and rich—I soon became fond of it."

"In one week I began to feel better. I could eat more and sleep better. My sick headaches were less frequent, and within five months I looked and felt like a new being, headache spells entirely gone."

"My health continued to improve and today I am well and strong, weigh 148 pounds. I attribute my present health to the life-giving qualities of Postum."

Read "The Road to Wellville" in pgs. "There's a Reason."

Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.

The Farmer's Son's Great Opportunity

Why wait for the old farm to become your inheritance? Begin now to prepare for the future of your own property and independence.

A group of wealthy farmers in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta are offering you a chance to secure a fine home and a good income on a beautiful farm in Western Canada.

Now's the Time. Not a year ago, but a year ago, the price of land was high. The price of land was high.

from the abundant crops of wheat, oats and barley, as well as cattle and horses. The price of land was high.

What's the matter? The price of land was high. The price of land was high.

For pamphlet "Last Best West," particulars of the sale, apply to the agent in your locality. Write to the agent in your locality.

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RURAL NEWS ITEMS

MILLBURN

Merry Xmas to all.
Lister for Wedding Bells.
Mr. and Mrs. Guy Hughes were Libertyville visitors the fore part of the week.
The Dodge and Hockaday Schools close Friday with a program and a weeks vacation.

Miss Helen Safford returns from Wheaton this week to spend the holidays with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Bonner visited Mrs. Annie Hughes of Lake Villa the past week also, A. H. Stewart.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Russell and daughter Florence were Christmas shoppers in Chicago the past week.

The Milburn church will hold Christmas entertainment and Christmas tree Saturday evening, Dec. 24, every one welcome. 8 o'clock.

The little daughter of Lyburn Stewart and Granddaughter of A. H. Stewart died Dec. 14, in Chicago. Lois Stewart was 2 yrs. and 7 months. Burial in Chicago.

A Food Combine.

"Oh, John," exclaimed Mrs. Bayside, laying down the paper, "Isn't it just lovely! You remember that young couple who were upset off here last summer in their sailboat? Well, they fell in love and got married. And they're so well to do, too. Her father's a rich packer and his father is a prosperous farmer."

"Oh," sniffed the summer hotel keeper, "a sort of corned beef and cabbage combination, eh?"

RUSSELL

Mr. McCann was a Milwaukee caller on Tuesday.

Miss Larnard spent Saturday at Kenosha on business.

Vaness Young visited with Asher Crittenden on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. George DeForris entertained friends from Waukegan over Sunday.

Don't forget that the Russell Sunday School have a fine Christmas entertainment to be given at the church Christmas Eve.

Miss Grace Carpenter, who underwent an operation at the Trinity hospital in Milwaukee, is gaining very fast and will be able to spend Christmas at her home in Franksville.

A Matter of Manners.

No comic opera is complete today unless it contains one song in which one of the principals or the chorus, or both, may sing at the audience. Undoubtedly every audience enjoys being sung at as a body, and callow college youths, home on a vacation, take great delight in being singled out for particular attention. But there should be a limit to this business. It is hardly fair to turn the spotlight on some wholly inoffensive couple in the middle of the house while the singer lifts her voice in song to ask the man, "Who are you with tonight?" Of course, the rest of the audience is vastly interested, especially if the butt of the joke seems to be ill at ease. There is no reason why he should be made to contribute to the entertainment. He has paid to be amused, not to amuse.—New York Telegraph.

Nature's True Lover.

A true lover of Nature will find as much enjoyment in seeing the beautiful things in other people's gardens as if they were in his own.

Banks On Sure Thing Now.

"I'll never be without Dr. King's New Life Pills again," writes A. Schingek, 647 Elm St., Buffalo, N. Y. "They cured me of chronic constipation when all other failed." Unequaled for biliousness, jaundice, indigestion, headache, chills malaria and debility. 25c at J. H. Swans.

BRISTOL

We wish you all a Merry Xmas.

Miss Josie Berger visited at Wm. Loeans' last week.

Mrs. F. H. Gilbert visited her father at Hebron last Saturday.

Mrs. Frank Rowbottom is visiting her parents at Peru, Ill., this week.

The Bowman Dairy Co., are handling about twenty thousand pounds of milk daily here at present.

Miss Hazel Pike, who is attending school at Evanston, is spending a couple of weeks at home.

Miss Emma Remus is on the sick list this week. Her position at the Foster store is being filled by Andy Foster of Salem.

Wm. Pringle, who has been at work harvesting the corn crop in Iowa returned the latter part of last week and is staying with his grandmother.

Ship Narrowly Escaped Meteorite.

The Hull trawler, which recently recorded that during its voyage in the North sea a meteor fell a few yards away from the vessel, shaking it from stem to stern and rendering its compass useless, was not the first vessel to have narrowly escaped disaster by the fall of a meteorite.

The African Prince of the Prince Line was nearly engulfed in the Atlantic from a similar cause in October, 1906, and the captain on reaching Liverpool gave an interesting account of the escape. He and the second officer were on the bridge when the bolt fell from the blue and it seemed to them as it entered the water close to the ship, to be a huge mass of molten metal poured out of the sky. "Had it struck us," said Capt. Anderson, "we would have been totally annihilated without a doubt—another mysterious loss of a vessel in every way fitted to undertake a voyage."

"I am of opinion," he added, "that to some such cause must be attributed losses so mysterious that neither seamanship, engineering nor ordinary theories can explain them."—London Daily News.

Ends Winter's Troubles.

To many, winter is a season of trouble. The frost bitten toes and fingers, chapped hands and lips, chilblains, cold sores, red and rough skins, prove this. But such troubles fly before Bucklen's Arnica Salve. A trial convinces. Greatest healer of burns, boils, piles, cuts, sores, eczema and sprains. Only 25c. at J. H. Swans.

HUNT PANTHERS WITH DOGS

Good Hound With Lots of Pluck Necessary to Succeed in This Sport.

Vancouver Island harbors a large number of panthers, but it is necessary to have a good hound with a lot of pluck in him to hunt them; so we were very lucky to engage a man with a couple of fine dogs, both very keen. We got our first cougar without any special incident; but not so our second. Near Salmon river, which is south of Alert bay, is one of the best places for panthers, and there is also magnificent duck shooting to be had there. Four of us had taken our 12-bore shotguns and gone off after some duck. When we set out one of the hounds followed us, and as he was a great favorite we did not send him back. We had some fair sport with the duck, although we shot very badly, and started back with more than enough to carry. Half way back to camp Bellman, the hound, gave tongue and went off at a tremendous rate.

"By Jove, there may be some panthers about," I said, and the words were hardly out of my mouth when, as we mounted the crest, we saw not one but a couple of panthers. Evidently they thought there was safety in numbers, for they crouched close to the ground, about twenty yards apart, waiting for Bellman, who was still following his nose, to come up with them. In a minute he rounded a small rock and came from scent to view. Meanwhile we were all four running toward the panthers as hard as we could go, forgetting that we only had duck shot to defend ourselves with.

That dog was the luckiest animal I have ever seen. He went straight for the nearest panther, which evidently completely upset all its preconceived ideas, for it turned tail and fled.

But the second was made of sterner stuff. With a bound it was on the hound's back, and then the two became so tangled up that we could hardly distinguish one from the other. Bingham, who was one of the duck shooters, had outrun the rest of us, and when he came up to the two animals, fighting for their lives, he managed to put the barrel of his gun right against the panther's head and pull the trigger. Poor Bellman, however, was mortally wounded and died a few minutes afterwards.—Wide World.

On Going to Sleep.

How do we go to sleep? How does Mother Nature charm away our consciousness? First of all, she throws her spell on these centres of our bodies that preside over the muscular system, causing one group of muscles after another gradually to collapse. Thereafter, various powers of mind succumb in regular order. First, we lose attention and judgement. Then memory goes, and imagination wanders away in reveries of its own. Ideas of time and space cease to control thought as gentle sleep—the nurse of our life—draws nearer. Then comes the turn of the special senses, beginning with sight—eyelids close and eyeballs turn upward and inward, as if to shut out all light, the pupils contracting more and more as slumber steals over us. The power of hearing fades away. The heart beats and breath is drawn more and more slowly. Temperature falls by perhaps two degrees, and the body loses three times less heat than when awake.

Just Like Cricket.

According to the new football rules there will be three intermissions during the game.

That's so much like dear old cricket, don't you know.

The whistle blows, the game stops, the players flick the dust from their cuffs.

"Come, boys," says the trainer—always so gentlemanly and thoughtful—"come and take some tea."

So they trot across to the tiring room and sit around on the cushions, quite comfortably, and sip the fragrant Bohea, or the aromatic Lipton—clear, and with lumps, and when the whistle blows the recall they put their spoons in their saucers and amble back to the field prepared to renew the brutal nudging and wrist slapping.

It was just a lovely idea to make the once vicious sport, a between-the-tea-cups game, don't you think?

Whiskbroom for Corn.

The shopper who knows just what she wants and insists upon having it unearths many a department store secret. A search for a whiskbroom of unusually fine straw took one persistent buyer into the kitchen department of a big store, where she saw a counter full of brooms labeled, "whiskbrooms for silking corn." Inquiry brought out the information that many housekeepers whose families are fond of corn on the cob have discovered that a fine whiskbroom is the best thing known for brushing silk from the ears and that it pays to keep a supply of extra fine brooms in the regular kitchen department.

The Wherefore.

"Your daughter practices on the piano faithfully, I notice. Now mine hates it."

"Mine does, too. But she'd rather practice all day than help with the housework."

A Hard World.

"Barker is awfully discontented."

"What's the matter with him? He earns enough to keep his family together, doesn't he?"

"Yes, but he wants to make enough to keep them apart."

W COCOANUTS ARE USED

Value of the Trees and How the Crop is Garnered.

Anut tree in the Islands of and Tobago begins to produce in four or five years after planting and reaches maturity in fourteen years. The average life of a healthy tree is fifty years. A very much longer. The nuts does not average more than a hundred a mature tree. At present cocoanuts for export are sold at from \$13 to \$22, a probable average of \$16 a thousand, copra at 4 1/2 cts. a pound, and the oil at 10 cts. a gallon. The nuts are mostly sent to Philadelphia and New York for copra to Europe and the oil to the West India Islands.

Cocconut trees are planted about 150 to the acre, depending on the soil. A mature tree produces about 100 nuts a year. A skilled laborer can pick about 30 to 50 cents a day, while a machine picker gets 50 cents a thousand, at a higher wage cents a thousand, at a higher wage. If the trees are very old, the sections of the trees are affected with bud rot, but this is not known to science is being used to limit the spread of the disease. All pests, however, generally prevalent in the most injury in sections of the trees is too much moisture. In fact, there have also to be contended with these thus far have not been alarm among the producers. The annual death rate of the trees, as stated by a leading grower, does not exceed five per cent. 5 to 10 per cent in some sections where the bud rot is very prevalent. The largest production of the world is 5,000,000 nuts a year, an average of 100 per acre. The remainder is small producers.

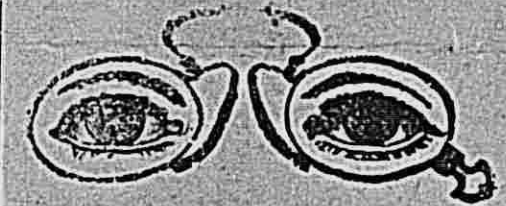
The shells are looked upon as waste, except as they rot and are used as fertilizer, or when used on the estates for road making. An effort was made a few years ago to utilize the fiber as a marketable product, but the effort proved unsuccessful, probably because it was not carried out on the right lines.

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Very Strange.

"I've observed one strange thing," says the Philosopher of Folly, "and that is that the coming man is always one who has got there."

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